

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 02936 281342Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 /021 W  
-----012434 281410Z /47

R 281301Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO USINFO WASHDC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8886

UNCLAS KINSHASA 2936

AGENCY FOR IOP/M, IAA

STATE FOR AF/P

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: THE HORN OF AFRICA IN THE AFTERMATH  
OF THE OGADEN WAR

1. "THE SOVIET UNION COULD CALL FOR MODERATION AND, THEREBY NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE DRAWN INTO THE ERYTHREAN CONFLICT BY JOINING AN ETHIOPIAN MOVE TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THAT REGION," ACCORDING TO ASSISTANT EDITOR OWANDJINKOI LOKOLAKONGE IN AN EDITORIAL IN KINSHASA EVENING DAILY ELIMA MARCH 25. HE SAYS THAT AS ETHIOPIA CELEBRATES ITS VICTORY OVER SOMALIA IN THE OGADEN WAR, IT IS PLANNING A DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE IN WHICH SOMALIA WOULD BE ASKED TO ABANDON ALL CLAIMS IT HAS ON PARTS OF ETHIOPIAN, KENYAN AND DJIBUTI TERRITORIES AND TO ADHERE TO THE OAU PRINCIPLE OF THE INVIOABILITY OF BORDERS INHERITED FROM THE COLONIAL ERA. EDITOR OWANDJINKOI NOTES THAT THERE HAS SO FAR BEEN NO REACTION FROM SOMALIA ON THE ETHIOPIAN POSITION.

2. MR. OWANDJINKO INDICATES THAT OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES WOULD PROBABLY ADVISE ETHIOPIA TO TAKE A MORE MODERATE APPROACH SO THAT SOMALI PRESIDENT BARRE CAN SAVE FACE. THE EDITORIAL  
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QUOTES SOME UNNAMED SOURCES AS SAYING THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD JOIN THOSE WHO WOULD CALL FOR MODERATION ON THE PART OF ETHIOPIA. "THE SOVIETS", SAYS MR. OWANDJINKOI, "WOULD FIRST WANT TO REHABILITATE THEIR REPUTATION WHICH HAS BEEN SULLIED IN SOMALIA DURING THE OGANDAN WAR". "SECONDLY", CONTINUES THE EDITOR, "THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN ETHIOPIA'S MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE ERYTHREA BECAUSE THEY

DO NOT WANT TO BE THE OBJECT OF CRITICISM AS THEY WERE  
DURING THE OGADEN WAR.

3. EDITOR OWANDJINKOI INDICATES THAT IF THE SOVIETS DECIDED TO  
HELP ETHIOPIA IN ERYTHREA, NEITHER PARTY (SOVIET OR ETHIOPIA)  
WOULD RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE U.N. BECAUSE IT DOES NOT  
CONSIDER ERYTHREA AS BEING PART OF ETHIOPIA. SHOULD THE SOVIET  
UNION COME TO THE AID OF THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT IN ERYTHREA,  
THE KREMLIN WOULD GET ITSELF IN A POSITION THAT IT COULD NOT  
JUSTIFY TO CERTAIN EAST-EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AS WELL  
AS CERTAIN WESTERN COMMUNIST PARTIES", CONCLUDES THE  
EDITORIAL. ITEM  
COHEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014